

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a voice user interface for a user comprising:

enabling the user to specify personality information for a virtual host;

creating storing the personality information in a user profile having preference information for ~~[[a]]~~the user; and

~~providing~~ generating a virtual host with a consistent personality ~~defined~~ in accordance with the ~~user profile~~ personality information.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~preference~~ personality information comprises information defining a tone of voice for the virtual host.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~preference~~ personality information comprises information defining a speed of voice for the virtual host.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~preference~~ personality information comprises information defining a background for the virtual host.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~preference~~ personality information comprises information defining a sex for the virtual host.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~preference~~ personality information comprises information defining an accent for the virtual host.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~preference~~ personality information comprises information defining a formality level of a conversational style for the virtual host.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the user profile further includes user interaction history information, the method further comprising:
~~determining a history of user experience with the voice user interface; and~~ adjusting the conversational style based on the user interaction history information of the user
~~experience.~~

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[16]]~~17, ~~wherein the conversational style is associated with a formality level, and~~ wherein adjusting comprises ~~reducing~~
changing the formality level according to a level as the history of user experience
~~increases~~ with the voice user interface.

19-55. (Canceled)